

atom(s) or group(s) present on the transition metal complex in its higher oxidation state is a

a1 halogen.--

**IN THE ABSTRACT**

Please replace the Abstract with the following Abstract:

a2 --Initiators for Atom Transfer Radical Polymerization are provided, which allow the preparation of a range of copolymers including block, graft, and bottlebrush copolymers, organic/inorganic hybrid composite copolymers and copolymers incorporating natural based polymeric materials.--

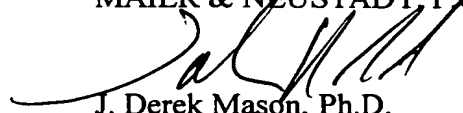
**BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENTS**

Support for the new claims is found in the specification and claims as originally filed. No new matter is believed to have been introduced to the application by entry of the amendments. Upon entry of the amendments, Claims 68-115 will be active. Entry and favorable consideration are respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and early notice of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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